BEFORE THE MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA **DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS** STATE OF CALIFORNIA

| ln | the | Matter | of | the | Accusation |
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| Αg | gain | st: | | | |

Seo Myong Yang, M.D.

Case No. 800-2020-072593

Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. A 30954

Respondent.

DECISION

The attached Stipulated Surrender of License and Disciplinary Order is hereby adopted as the Decision and Order of the Medical Board of California, Department of Consumer Affairs, State of California.

This Decision shall become effective at 5:00 p.m. on April 15, 2022.

IT IS SO ORDERED April 8, 2022.

MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA

Reji Varghese Deputy Director

| 1 | ROB BONTA | | | | | |
|----|---|---|--|--|--|--|
| 2 | Attorney General of California STEVEN D. MUNI | | | | | |
| 3 | Supervising Deputy Attorney General AARON L. LENT Deputy Attorney General State Bar No. 256857 1300 I Street, Suite 125 P.O. Box 944255 | | | | | |
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| 5 | | | | | | |
| 6 | Sacramento, CA 94244-2550 Telephone: (916) 210-7545 Facsimile: (916) 327-2247 | | | | | |
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| 8 | Attorneys for Complainant | | | | | |
| 9 | BEFORE THE | | | | | |
| 10 | MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA | | | | | |
| 11 | DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA | | | | | |
| 12 | · | | | | | |
| 13 | In the Matter of the Accusation Against: | Case No. 800-2020-072593 | | | | |
| 14 | SEO MYONG YANG, M.D. 1736 N. Gratton Road | OAH No. 2022010587 | | | | |
| 15 | Turlock, CA 95382 | STIPULATED SURRENDER OF LICENSE AND DISCIPLINARY ORDER | | | | |
| 16 | Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. A 30954 | | | | | |
| 17 | Respondent. | | | | | |
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| 20 | IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGR | EED by and between the parties to the above- | | | | |
| 21 | entitled proceedings that the following matters are true: | | | | | |
| 22 | <u>PARTIES</u> | | | | | |
| 23 | 1. William Prasifka (Complainant) is the | e Executive Director of the Medical Board of | | | | |
| 24 | California (Board). He brought this action solely in his official capacity and is represented in this | | | | | |
| 25 | matter by Rob Bonta, Attorney General of the State of California, by Aaron L. Lent, Deputy | | | | | |
| 26 | Attorney General. | | | | | |
| 27 | 2. Seo Myong Yang, M.D. (Respondent) is representing himself in this proceeding and | | | | | |
| 28 | has chosen not to exercise his right to be represented by counsel. | | | | | |
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3. On or about April 4, 1977, the Board issued Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. A 30954 to Seo Myong Yang, M.D. (Respondent). The Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought in Accusation No. 800-2020-072593 and expired on October 31, 2021.

JURISDICTION

- 4. Accusation No. 800-2020-072593 was filed before the Board, and is currently pending against Respondent. The Accusation and all other statutorily required documents were properly served on Respondent on September 14, 2021. Respondent timely filed his Notice of Defense contesting the Accusation.
- 5. A copy of Accusation No. 800-2020-072593 is attached as Exhibit A and incorporated by reference.

ADVISEMENT AND WAIVERS

- 6. Respondent has carefully read, and understands the charges and allegations in Accusation No. 800-2020-072593. Respondent also has carefully read, and understands the effects of this Stipulated Surrender of License and Disciplinary Order.
- 7. Respondent is fully aware of his legal rights in this matter, including the right to a hearing on the charges and allegations in the Accusation; the right to be represented by counsel, at his own expense; the right to confront and cross-examine the witnesses against him; the right to present evidence and to testify on his own behalf; the right to the issuance of subpoenas to compel the attendance of witnesses and the production of documents; the right to reconsideration and court review of an adverse decision; and all other rights accorded by the California Administrative Procedure Act and other applicable laws.
- 8. Respondent voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently waives and gives up each and every right set forth above.

CULPABILITY

9. Respondent admits the truth of each and every charge and allegation in Accusation No. 800-2020-072593, agrees that cause exists for discipline and hereby surrenders his Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. A 30954 for the Board's formal acceptance.

10. Respondent understands that by signing this stipulation he enables the Board to issue an order accepting the surrender of his Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate without further process.

CONTINGENCY

- 11. This stipulation shall be subject to approval by the Board. Respondent understands and agrees that counsel for Complainant and the staff of the Board may communicate directly with the Board regarding this stipulation and surrender, without notice to or participation by Respondent. By signing the stipulation, Respondent understands and agrees that he may not withdraw his agreement or seek to rescind the stipulation prior to the time the Board considers and acts upon it. If the Board fails to adopt this stipulation as its Decision and Order, the Stipulated Surrender and Disciplinary Order shall be of no force or effect, except for this paragraph, it shall be inadmissible in any legal action between the parties, and the Board shall not be disqualified from further action by having considered this matter.
- 12. The parties understand and agree that Portable Document Format (PDF) and facsimile copies of this Stipulated Surrender of License and Order, including PDF and facsimile signatures thereto, shall have the same force and effect as the originals.
- 13. This Stipulated Surrender and Disciplinary Order is intended by the parties herein to be an integrated writing representing the complete, final, and exclusive embodiment of the agreements of the parties in the above-entitled matter.
- 14. The parties agree that copies of this Stipulated Surrender and Disciplinary Order, including copies of the signatures of the parties, may be used in lieu of original documents and signatures and, further, that such copies shall have the same force and effect as originals.
- 15. In consideration of the foregoing admissions and stipulations, the parties agree that the Board may, without further notice or formal proceeding, issue and enter the following Order:

<u>ORDER</u>

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. A 30954, issued to Respondent Seo Myong Yang, M.D., is surrendered and accepted by the Board.

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- The surrender of Respondent's Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate and the 1. acceptance of the surrendered license by the Board shall constitute the imposition of discipline against Respondent. This stipulation constitutes a record of the discipline and shall become a part of Respondent's license history with the Board.
- Respondent shall lose all rights and privileges as a licensed physician and surgeon in 2. California as of the effective date of the Board's Decision and Order.
- Respondent shall cause to be delivered to the Board his pocket license and, if one was 3. issued, his wall certificate on or before the effective date of the Decision and Order.
- If Respondent ever files an application for licensure or a petition for reinstatement in the State of California, the Board shall treat it as a petition for reinstatement. Respondent must comply with all the laws, regulations and procedures for reinstatement of a revoked or surrendered license in effect at the time the petition is filed, and all of the charges and allegations contained in Accusation No. 800-2020-072593 shall be deemed to be true, correct and admitted by Respondent when the Board determines whether to grant or deny the petition.
- Respondent shall pay the agency its costs of investigation and enforcement in the amount of \$3,618.75 prior to issuance of a new or reinstated license.
- If Respondent should ever apply or reapply for a new license or certification, or 6. petition for reinstatement of a license, by any other health care licensing agency in the State of California, all of the charges and allegations contained in Accusation, No. 800-2020-072593 shall be deemed to be true, correct, and admitted by Respondent for the purpose of any Statement of Issues or any other proceeding seeking to deny or restrict licensure.

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ACCEPTANCE 1 I have carefully read the Stipulated Surrender of License and Disciplinary Order. I 2 understand the stipulation and the effect it will have on my Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate. 3 I enter into this Stipulated Surrender of License and Disciplinary Order voluntarily, knowingly, 4 and intelligently, and agree to be bound by the Decision and Order of the Medical Board of 5 ation California. 6 7 8 9 Respondent 10 **ENDORSEMENT** 11 The foregoing Stipulated Surrender of License and Order is hereby respectfully submitted 12 for consideration by the Medical Board of California of the Department of Consumer Affairs. 13 March 3, 2022 Respectfully submitted, DATED: 14 ROB BONTA 15 Attorney General of California STEVEN D. MUNI 16 Supervising Deputy Attorney General 17 alieni 18 AARON L. LENT Deputy Attorney General 19 Attorneys for Complainant 20

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Exhibit A

Accusation No. 800-2020-072593

| 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 | ROB BONTA Attorney General of California STEVEN D. MUNI Supervising Deputy Attorney General AARON L. LENT Deputy Attorney General State Bar No. 256857 1300 I Street, Suite 125 P.O. Box 944255 Sacramento, CA 94244-2550 Telephone: (916) 210-7545 Facsimile: (916) 327-2247 Attorneys for Complainant | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|
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| 10 | BEFORE THE MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS | | | | | | |
| 11 | STATE OF CALIFORNIA | | | | | | |
| 12 | | | | | | | |
| 13 | In the Matter of the Accusation Against: | Case No. 800-2020-072593 | | | | | |
| 14 15 | SEO MYONG YANG, M.D. 1736 N. Gratton Road Turlock, CA 95380 | ACCUSATION | | | | | |
| 16 | Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. A 30954, | | | | | | |
| 17 | Respondent. | | | | | | |
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| 20 | | <u>PARTIES</u> | | | | | |
| 21 | 1. William Prasifka (Complainant) brings this Accusation solely in his official capacity | | | | | | |
| 22 | as the Executive Director of the Medical Board of California, Department of Consumer Affairs | | | | | | |
| 23 | (Board). | | | | | | |
| 24 | 2. On or about April 4, 1977, the Medical Board issued Physician's and Surgeon's | | | | | | |
| 25 | Certificate No. A 30954 to Seo Myong Yang, M.D. (Respondent). The Physician's and | | | | | | |
| 26 | Surgeon's Certificate was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought | | | | | | |
| 27 | herein and will expire on October 31, 2021, unless renewed. | | | | | | |
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| | (SEO MYONG YANG, M.D.) ACCUSATION NO. 800-2020-072593 | | | | | | |

JURISDICTION

- 3. This Accusation is brought before the Board, under the authority of the following laws. All section references are to the Business and Professions Code (Code) unless otherwise indicated.
- 4. Section 2227 of the Code provides that a licensee who is found guilty under the Medical Practice Act may have his or her license revoked, suspended for a period not to exceed one year, placed on probation and required to pay the costs of probation monitoring, or such other action taken in relation to discipline as the Board deems proper.
 - 5. Section 2234 of the Code, states in pertinent part:
 - "The board shall take action against any licensee who is charged with unprofessional conduct. In addition to other provisions of this article, unprofessional conduct includes, but is not limited to, the following:
 - "(a) Violating or attempting to violate, directly or indirectly, assisting in or abetting the violation of, or conspiring to violate any provision of this chapter.

"…

- "(e) The commission of any act involving dishonesty or corruption that is substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of a physician and surgeon.
 - "(f) Any action or conduct that would have warranted the denial of a certificate.

- 6. Section 2236 of the Code states in pertinent part:
- "(a) The conviction of any offense substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of a physician and surgeon constitutes unprofessional conduct within the meaning of this chapter [Chapter 5, the Medical Practice Act]. The record of conviction shall be conclusive evidence only of the fact that the conviction occurred.
- "(d) A plea or verdict of guilty or a conviction after a plea of nolo contendere is deemed to be a conviction within the meaning of this section and Section 2236.1. The record of conviction shall be conclusive evidence of the fact that the conviction occurred."

¹ Unprofessional conduct under California and Business Code §2234 is conduct which breaches the rules of the ethical code of the medical profession, or conduct which is unbecoming to a member in good standing of the medical profession, and which demonstrates an unfitness to practice medicine. (Shea v. Board of Medical Examiners (1978) 81 Cal.App.3d 564, 575.)

7. Section 802.1 of the Code states:

- "(a) (1) A physician and surgeon, osteopathic physician and surgeon, a doctor of podiatric medicine, and a physician assistant shall report either of the following to the entity that issued his or her license:
- (A) The bringing of an indictment or information charging a felony against the licensee.
- (B) The conviction of the licensee, including any verdict of guilty, or plea of guilty or no contest, of any felony or misdemeanor.
- (2) The report required by this subdivision shall be made in writing within 30 days of the date of the bringing of the indictment or information or of the conviction.
- (b) Failure to make a report required by this section shall be a public offense punishable by a fine not to exceed five thousand dollars (\$5,000)."
- 8. Section 118, subdivision (b), of the Code provides that the suspension/expiration/surrender/cancellation of a license shall not deprive the Board/Registrar/Director of jurisdiction to proceed with a disciplinary action during the period within which the license may be renewed, restored, reissued or reinstated.

STATUTORY PROVISIONS

9. California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1360, states:

For the purposes of denial, suspension or revocation of a license, certificate or permit pursuant to Division 1.5 (commencing with Section 475) of the code, a crime or act shall be considered to be substantially related to the qualifications, functions or duties of a person holding a license, certificate or permit under the Medical Practice Act if to a substantial degree it evidences present or potential unfitness of a person holding a license, certificate or permit to perform the functions authorized by the license, certificate or permit in a manner consistent with the public health, safety or welfare. Such crimes or acts shall include but not be limited to the following: Violating or attempting to violate, directly or indirectly, or assisting in or abetting the violation of, or conspiring to violate any provision of the Medical Practice Act.

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

10. On or about November 8, 2020, at approximately 4:00 p.m., within the County of Stanislaus, Stanislaus Sherriff's Department Deputies were dispatched to a residence in the City of Turlock, California regarding Respondent standing in the middle of the roadway, acting in a strange manner, and attempting to prevent vehicles from passing him. When deputies arrived, Respondent was no longer standing in the street but was operating a Bobcat tractor on his

property and refused to speak with the officers. Sherriff's deputies did speak with Respondent's wife at the scene who advised the officers that earlier she was afraid of Respondent's behavior and had called emergency 9-1-1. The deputies advised Respondent's wife to call emergency 9-1-1 again if Respondent continued to act in a strange manner.

- 11. On or about November 8, 2020, at approximately 5:30 p.m., within the County of Stanislaus, Stanislaus Sherriff's Department Deputies were again dispatched to Respondent's residence in the City of Turlock, California due to Respondent's wife calling emergency 9-1-1 to report that Respondent was acting violently. When the deputies arrived at the location, they were wearing Stanislaus County Sheriff's uniforms and driving clearly marked Stanislaus County Sheriff's vehicles.
- 12. The deputies observed Respondent operating a Bobcat tractor on the property with the trailer lights on and the tractor arms in a raised position. The deputies attempted to contact Respondent by flashing their lights towards the Bobcat and shouting "come here" while also verbally identifying themselves from the Stanislaus Sheriff's Office. The deputies asked Respondent if he was okay, to which he responded that he was fine while also saying something inaudibly. When the deputies asked Respondent what he just said, Respondent said, "Fuck you" while the Bobcat tractor moved forward towards the deputies.
- 13. The deputies radioed dispatch for emergency radio traffic and additional law enforcement units. Respondent then began to drive the Bobcat tractor through his fence line and onto the roadway towards a Stanislaus County Sheriff's Deputy in his fully marked patrol vehicle with his red and blue flashing lights on. At this time, Respondent's wife repeatedly yelled to Respondent to stop. The Bobcat tractor drove through the fence and sped towards the Sheriff's patrol vehicle. Respondent attempted to ram one of the deputies in his patrol vehicle with the Bobcat tractor which the deputy avoided by maneuvering his patrol vehicle out of the striking path of Respondent's Bobcat tractor. In response to Respondent's actions, the deputies again called over their radios that they needed additional sheriff's units to the location.
- 14. Deputies then observed Respondent's attempts to ram a civilian vehicle driving on the roadway. During this time, the Bobcat tractor's arms were lowered and raised repeatedly. One

of the deputies utilized the siren and air horn on his Sheriff's patrol vehicle in an attempt to distract Respondent from colliding with the civilian vehicle on the roadway. In response to the situation, the deputies discharged approximately fifteen rounds from their firearms at the Bobcat and Respondent, as the Bobcat tractor continued to operate and turn towards another Sherriff's deputy.

- 15. Once the Bobcat came to a stop with its arms raised and lights on, the deputies commanded Respondent, who was still seated and operating the Bobcat tractor, multiple times to show his hands and to turn the Bobcat tractor off. Respondent repeatedly told the deputies that he could not. When the deputies told Respondent that if he turned the Bobcat tractor on, they would shoot him, the Respondent told them to "go" and that he wanted to die. Respondent then told the deputies that he was so happy that he was going to die, called one of the deputies a "son of a bitch," and told the deputies to kill him. Respondent repeatedly told the deputies that he was happy and to kill him, while being uncooperative, and not following the commands of the deputies to exit the Bobcat tractor. Respondent then told deputies to shoot him in his head, while pointing to his forehead, and again verbally asked to be killed by the deputies. Deputies told Respondent that they want to help him and that they did not want to hurt him, to which Respondent yelled back that he did not want to talk, wanted to die, and did not want to live anymore. While still in the Bobcat tractor, one of the deputies approached Respondent, placed handcuffs on his wrists, and assisted him out of the Bobcat tractor.
- 16. After the incident took place, neighbors and witness were interviewed who stated they heard the gun shots. One witness stated he observed Respondent driving erratically in the Bobcat tractor and heard the deputies giving commands to Respondent. One neighbor observed Respondent using the Bobcat tractor in a ramming manner, saw a Sherriff's vehicle, heard deputies command Respondent to exit the Bobcat tractor, and saw Respondent refuse those commands. That same neighbor heard the deputies tell Respondent that they did not want to shoot him and heard Respondent yell to the deputies "you will have to kill me...kill me," that Respondent wanted to die, and then he heard approximately four to six gun shots.

- 17. Respondent was placed under arrest for assault with a deadly weapon, a violation of California Penal Code §245, subdivision (a), sub-paragraph (1).
- 18. On or about November 13, 2020, the Stanislaus County District Attorney filed a criminal complaint against Respondent in the matter entitled, *The People of the State of California v. Seo Myong Yang*, Stanislaus County Superior Court Case No. CR-20-010595, for violations of California Penal Code §245, subdivision (a), sub-paragraph (1) [felony assault with a deadly weapon], and California Penal Code §245, subdivision (c), [felony assault on a peace officer with a deadly weapon], in two separate counts².
- 19. On or about February 8, 2021, the Stanislaus County Superior Court conducted a preliminary examination in the matter entitled, *The People of the State of California v. Seo Myong Yang*, Stanislaus County Superior Court Case No. CR-20-010595, and found sufficient and probable cause that Respondent committed the conduct alleged in the criminal complaint. The Superior Court Judge also determined there was sufficient and probable cause to hold Respondent to answer for an additional violation of California Penal Code §245, subdivision (c), [felony assault on a peace officer with a deadly weapon].
- 20. On or about February 22, 2021, Respondent was arraigned in the Stanislaus County Superior Court on a Criminal Information in the matter entitled, *The People of the State of California v. Seo Myong Yang*, Stanislaus County Superior Court Case No. CR-20-010595, for a violation of California Penal Code §245, subdivision (a), sub-paragraph (1) [felony assault with a deadly weapon], and two counts of violating California Penal Code §245, subdivision (c), [felony assault on a peace officer with a deadly weapon], in three separate counts.
- 21. On or about May 13, 2021, Respondent was convicted upon his pleas of nolo contendere to two lesser included felony offenses as to the first two counts of the Criminal Information in the matter entitled, The People of the State of California v. Seo Myong Yang,

² Such crimes are classified as "serious" felonies and strike offenses pursuant to California Penal Code §1192.7(c)(11) and §1192.7(c)(23). They are also acts of moral turpitude (*People v. Castro* (1985) 38 Cal.3d 301, 314), i.e., "...acts of baseness, vileness or depravity in the private and social duties which a man owes to his fellowmen, or to society in general, contrary to the accepted and customary rule of right and duty between man and man." (*In re Craig* (1938) 12 Cal.2d 93, 97; see also People v. Cavazos (1985) 172 Cal.App.3d 589, People v. Elwell (1988) 206Cal.App.3d 171, and People v. Thomas (1988) 206 Cal.App.3d 689.)

FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Conviction of Crimes Substantially Related to the Qualifications, Functions, or Duties of a Physician and Surgeon)

- 23. Respondent Seo Myong Yang, M.D. has subjected his Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. A 30954 to disciplinary action under section 2234, as defined by section 2236 of the Code, in that he has been convicted of two felony criminal offenses substantially related to the practice of medicine.
- 24. Paragraphs 10 through 22, above, are incorporated by reference and realleged as if fully set forth herein.

SECOND CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Unprofessional Conduct)

- 25. Respondent Seo Myong Yang, M.D. has subjected his Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. A 30954 to disciplinary action under section 2234 of the Code, in that he has committed acts or engaged in conduct which breaches the rules or ethical code of the medical profession, or conduct which is unbecoming to a member in good standing of the medical profession, and which demonstrates an unfitness to practice medicine.
- 26. Paragraphs 10 through 22, above, are incorporated by reference and realleged as if fully set forth herein.

THIRD CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Failure to Report Information & Convictions to the Board)

- 27. Respondent Seo Myong Yang, M.D. has subjected his Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. A 30954 to disciplinary action under sections 2227 and 2234, as defined by section 802.1 of the Code, in that he failed to disclose his felony convictions and arraignment of his criminal Information in the *People of the State of California v. Seo Myong Yang* in Stanislaus County Superior Court, Case No. CR-20-010595 to the Medical Board of California;
- 28. Paragraphs 10 through 22, above, are incorporated by reference and realleged as if fully set forth herein.